CLAIMS

1. Use of a heat shock polypeptide and/or an encoding nucleic acid sequence, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the relief of pain.

2. A use as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the heat shock polypeptide is a chaperonin.

3. A use as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the heat shock polypeptide is derived from a bacterium.

4. A use as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the heat shock polypeptide is derived from Mycobacterium.

5. A use as claimed in Claim 4 wherein the heat shock polypeptide is derived from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

6. Use as claimed in any previous claim wherein the nucleic acid comprises:

(i) the nucleotide sequence of Figure 1 and/or Figure 2 and/or Figure 3, or

(ii) a sequence which has more than 66% identity to sequence (i), or a sequence which hybridises to sequence (i) under conditions of 2 x SSC, 65°C (wherein SCC = 0.15M NaCl, 0.15M sodium citrate, pH 7.2) which encodes a functionally equivalent polypeptide to the sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of Figure 1 and/or Figure 2 and/or Figure 3, or

(iii) a fragment of sequence (i) or (ii) encoding a functionally equivalent polypeptide fragment.

7. A use as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein the polypeptide comprises:

(i) the amino acid sequence of Figure 1 and/or Figure 2 and/or Figure 3, or

(ii) a sequence which has more than 60% identity to sequence (i) which provides a functionally equivalent polypeptide, or

(iii) a functionally equivalent fragment of sequence (i) or (ii).

8. A use as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the functionally equivalent fragments are from 3 to 400 residues in length.

9. A use as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the functionally equivalent fragments are from 3 to 100 residues in length.

10. A use as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 5 wherein the nucleic acid encodes a functionally equivalent fragment as defined in any one of Claims 7, 8 or 9.

11. A use as claimed in any previous claim wherein the medicament further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable excipent, diluent or carrier.

12. A use as claimed in any previous claim wherein the medicament further comprises at least one additive for assisting or augmenting the action of the nucleic acids or polypeptides.

13. A use as claimed in Claim 12 wherein the additive is selected from at least one of paracetamol, aspirin, ibuprofen, other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS), cylooxygenase-2-selective inhibitors (CSIs), opiates.

14. A use as claimed in any previous claim wherein the medicament provides prolonged or sustained pain relief.

15. A use as claimed in any previous claim wherein the daily dosage level will be from 0.0001 to 100,000 mg, administered in single or divided doses.

16. A use as claimed in claim 15 wherein the daily dosage level is 0.0001 to 1000 mg.

17. A use as claimed in Claim 15 or 16 whereby the time between dose administration to the patient is between six and twelve hours.

18. A use as claimed in Claim 17 whereby the time between dose administration to the patient is between nine and twelve hours after the previous dose

19. A use as claimed in Claim 15 or 16 whereby the time between dose administration to the patient is between twelve hours and twelve days.

20. A use as claimed in Claim 15 or 16 whereby the time between dose administration to the patient is between twelve days and six months.

21. A use as claimed in any previous claim whereby the compositions of the invention are formulated to permit administration by at least one route selected from the intranasal, oral, parenteral, topical, ophthalmic, suppository, pessary or inhalation routes.

22. A use as claimed in Claim 21 whereby the compositions of the invention are formulated to permit administration by inhalation.

23. A use as described in any previous claim wherein the medicament is used in pain relief of a human or animal patient.

24. A use as claimed in Claim 23 wherein the patient is human.

25. A use as claimed in any previous claim wherein the pain is at least one selected from backache, headache, toothache, earache, Arthritis, Gout, soft tissue trauma, ligament/tendon traumatic damage, broken bones, Cancer, post operative pain, menstrual pain, obstetric pain, renal tract pain, visceral pain, burns, abscesses and other infections.

26. A method comprising administering to a patient an amount of a medicament for the relief of pain as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 25.

27. A use of a heat shock polypeptide or an encoding nucleic acid sequence for the relief of pain substantially as described herein with reference to the accompanying examples and drawings.

28. A method of relieving pain by administering a heat shock polypeptide or an encoding nucleic acid sequence substantially as described herein with reference to the accompanying examples and drawings.